

Section II (Remarks)

The status of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/287,753, discussed in paragraph [0004] on page 2 of the present application has been updated by the amendment of such paragraph to reflect the issue of U.S. Patent 6,803,746 on October 12, 2004.

Accordingly, the entry of this amendment entails no further consideration or search, since it merely updates the issued status of the referenced co-pending application.

Respectfully submitted,

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